

District Judge Ricardo S. Martinez

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

ASHENAFI K. TERESSA,

Plaintiff,

v.

ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:24-cv-00306-RSM

STIPULATED MOTION TO HOLD  
CASE IN ABEYANCE AND ORDER

Noted for Consideration:  
April 26, 2024

Plaintiff and Defendants, by and through their counsel of record, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 6 and Local Rules 7(d)(1), 10(g) and 16, hereby jointly stipulate and move to stay these proceedings until October 3, 2024. Plaintiff brought this litigation pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act and Mandamus Act seeking, inter alia, to compel U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) to schedule an interview and adjudicate his asylum application. Defendants’ response to the Complaint is currently due on May 14, 2024. The parties are currently working towards a resolution to this litigation. For good cause, the parties request that the Court hold the case in abeyance until October 3, 2024.

Courts have “broad discretion” to stay proceedings. *Clinton v. Jones*, 520 U.S. 681, 706 (1997). “[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the power inherent in every court to

1 control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for  
2 counsel, and for litigants.” Landis v. N. Am. Co., 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936); see also Fed. R.  
3 Civ. P. 1.

4 With additional time, this case may be resolved without the need of further judicial  
5 intervention. USCIS has scheduled Plaintiff’s asylum interview for June 5, 2024. USCIS  
6 agrees to diligently work towards completing the adjudication within 120 days of the interview,  
7 absent unforeseen or exceptional circumstances that would require additional time for  
8 adjudication. If the adjudication is not completed within that time, USCIS will provide a status  
9 report to the Court. Plaintiff will submit all supplemental documents and evidence, if any, to  
10 USCIS seven to ten days prior to the interview date. Plaintiff recognizes that failure to submit  
11 documents prior to the interview may require the interview to be rescheduled and the  
12 adjudication delayed. If needed, Plaintiff will bring an interpreter to the interview, otherwise  
13 the interview will need to be rescheduled and the adjudication delayed. Once the application is  
14 adjudicated, Plaintiff will dismiss the case with each party to bear their own litigation costs and  
15 attorneys’ fees. Accordingly, the parties request this abeyance to allow USCIS to conduct  
16 Plaintiff’s asylum interview and then process his asylum application.

17 As additional time is necessary for this to occur, the parties request that the Court hold  
18 the case in abeyance until October 3, 2024. The parties will submit a status update on or before  
19 October 3, 2024.

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1 DATED this 26th day of April, 2024.

2 Respectfully submitted,

3 TESSA M. GORMAN  
4 United States Attorney

O'SULLIVAN LAW OFFICE

s/ Michelle R. Lambert

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10 *Attorneys for Defendants*

*Attorney for Plaintiff*

11 ***I certify that this memorandum contains 395***  
12 ***words, in compliance with the Local Civil***  
***Rules.***

**ORDER**

The case is held in abeyance until October 3, 2024. The parties shall submit a status update on or before October 3, 2024. It is so **ORDERED**.

DATED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.



RICARDO S. MARTINEZ  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE